



**KIMBERLY J. SCHNEIDER, Ed. D**  
*Superintendent*

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) NOTIFICATION

Dear School Community,

In conjunction with the Mercer County Division of Public Health and the Hamilton Township Health Department, we are informing you that an individual at Mercer Elementary School, tested presumptive positive for the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on March 13, 2020. This individual is awaiting confirmatory test results from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) laboratory.

COVID-19 is caused by a novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV) that was first detected in Wuhan Hubei Province, China. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person between people who are in close contact with one another, and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the eyes, mouth or nose of people who are nearby or possibly inhaled into the lungs. People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic.

A limited number of students and staff have potentially had close contact with the presumptive positive individual. As per the New Jersey Department of Health, a close contact is considered to be a person who was within 6 feet of a COVID-19 presumptive positive case for longer than 10 minutes. In coordination with the Administration of the Mercer County Special Services School District, the Hamilton Township Health Department representatives will be directly contacting those individuals who have been determined to be a close contact.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding at this time, we will continue to update you as more information is available.

For more information about COVID-19 and the public health procedures visit <https://www.nj.gov/health> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>. You may also call the New Jersey Department of Health call center at: 1-800-222-1222. The call center is staffed by trained health care professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, has multi-language capacity, and is free.

Sincerely,

Kimberly J. Schneider, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools